

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, line 23, with the following amended paragraph:

In operation, when the endoscope assembly 150 is articulated into a first articulated position 176 as shown in Figure 7, the partial cuts 172 are stretched open to form one or more open notches 174 in the working channel 170. Similarly, when the insertion tube 22 is articulated into a position that compresses the working channel 170, ~~such as a second articulated position 178~~, the partial cuts 172 are compressed together to form overlaps 180, in the manner described above and shown in Figures 5 and 6.

Please replace the paragraph on page 14, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment, as shown in Figures 11 and 12, the medical device 450 may comprise a biopsy sampling device and the operating end 451 may include a biopsy collection brush of the type described in co-pending, commonly owned U.S. Patent Application No. 10/040,923, filed concurrently herewith ~~under Attorney Docket No. 501060-01~~. A variety of alternate biopsy sampling devices may be used, including, for example, needles, forceps (*e.g.* U.S. Patent No. 5,820,630 issued to Lind), loop and cup devices (*e.g.* U.S. Patent No. 5,417,697 issued to Wilk *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,741,271 issued to Nakao *et al.*), and cylindrical cutting devices (*e.g.* U.S. Patent No. 4,651,753 issued to Lifton).

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 16, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

In operation, when a bending portion 526 of the insertion tube 22 is articulated into the first articulated position 528 (Figure 14), the collapsible working channel 520 is pulled by the insertion tube 22 via the attachment point 522, causing the collapsible working channel 520 to slide through the sleeve support 523, and the fitting ~~553~~548 to slide in a first direction 555 into the receiver 560. Similarly, when the bending portion 526 is articulated into the second

articulated position 530 (Figure 15), the collapsible working channel 520 is pushed, causing the collapsible working channel 520 to slide through the sleeve support 523, and the fitting ~~553~~548 to slide in a second direction 557 out of the receiver 560.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 18, line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

The proximal end of the working channel 620 includes a fitting 648 (*e.g.* a Luer lock fitting) fixedly attached to the proximal fitting 642 of the sheath 610 by a fixed collar 660. In an alternate embodiment, the fixed collar ~~600~~660 may be eliminated, and the fitting 648 may be directly attached to the sheath 610 or to the endoscope 20. The distal end of the working channel 620 is fixedly attached at an attachment area 622 proximate the working end 26, and is slideably coupled to the body 612 of the sheath 610 by the sleeve support 623. As in the previously described embodiment, the working channel 620 is free to axially slide along the tubular body 612 of the sheath 610 along most of the length of the working channel 620.